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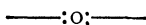
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common mammals. A number of illustrations, especially of birds and mammals, appear in it not contained in the larger volume. It is a book of 334 pages.

— An admission fee of fifty cents is now charged visitors to the ostrich farm at Anaheim, Cal. The object of the tariff is to discourage the rush of visitors, who seriously interfere with the work of the farm. The birds are breeding and require careful attention and freedom from disturbance.

— Major J. W. Powell is delivering some lectures on Social Evolution before the Philosophical Society of Washington.

— Mr. Robert B. Tolles died Nov. 18, 1833, at Boston. For many years Mr. Tolles held the highest place in America as the manufacturer of microscopic lenses and triplets, as well as other microscopic apparatus, devised by himself. His death is a loss to the scientific world.



## PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PHILADELPHIA ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.—Oct. 3.—Professor Heilprin discussed the cotemporaneity of geological formations.

Oct. 11.—Rev. Dr. McCook spoke of the parasites infesting the cocoons of spiders. The cocoons of ichneumon flies, of the genus *Pezomachus*, were found in the cocoons of *Argiope riparia* and *Epeira atrata* of the Pacific coast, but these were in their turn infested by chalcidians. From the cocoon of the last-named species several small beetle larvæ of the genus *Trogoderma* were also extracted, together with some ants of the genus *Solenopsis*.

Oct. 18.—Mr. J. A. Ryder described *Gastrostomus bairdii*, a strange fish dredged off the Massachusetts coast at depths of from 500 to 3000 fathoms. A comparison was made between this species and the *Eurypharynx* of the Mediterranean. In the American form the jaws are still more remarkably developed, so that they are seven times the length of the head. The extensible membrane of the upper jaw, and the pouch pendant from the lower, cause the mouth to be a vast funnel, to which the body seems an insignificant appendage. Probably the food is partly digested, as well as collected and stored, in this receptacle. The gills are placed far behind the skull, the gill-openings are mere pores, the opercular bones are absent; a membranous fold is situated near the tail, and the ova, as in eels, drops directly into the alimentary canal. The eyes are functional.

Nov. 1.—Mr. J. Willcox detailed his observations upon the soil of parts of Canada and New York, and stated his belief that the great glacier had removed the original soil, and in its retreat had deposited the existing coat, always thinner than that to be found

south of the terminal moraine. Professor Heilprin called attention to the presence of fragments of trilobites among fossils from rocks of the Hamilton period in Pike and Monroe counties, where Professor J. C. White had been unable to discover them.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB.—Dec. 12, 1883.—Report of the councilor of topography, J. R. Edmunds; Nordenskjöld's Greenland expedition, by Professor Wm. H. Niles; Twin Mountain range and valley of the East branch, by R. K. Wood; an ascent of the Giant's Stairs (postponed from Nov. 14); ascents of Mts. Hale, Pliny, and Caribou, by E. B. Cook; a partial exploration of Mt. Wildcat, by Miss M. M. Pychowska.

Special Meeting, Dec. 19.—Optical illusions among the mountains, by Professor Charles E. Fay.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.—Dec. 14.—Papers were read by Professor C. V. Riley on the use of naphthaline in medicine and as an insecticide; by Mr. Henry W. Elliott, concerning the appetite of the muskrat; by Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, the anatomical collections of the Army Medical Museum.

Dec. 28.—Communications were presented by Dr. Thomas Taylor on naphthaline, its effects on seeds, plants, insects and other animals; by Mr. J. A. Ryder on the structure of the egg-membrane; by Dr. W. S. Barnard some results by *massage et contre coup*; and Mr. Romyn Hitchcock exhibited an improved form of microscope.

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—Dec. 10.—The following paper was read: The geology, botany, and scenery of the Yellowstone National Park (illustrated with lantern views), by Dr. J. S. Newberry and Professor H. L. Fairchild.

Dec. 17.—The following papers were presented: 1. The literature of ozone and peroxide of hydrogen (second memoir), including: 1. Historical-critical résumé of the progress of discovery since 1879; 2. Index to the literature of ozone, 1879-1883; 3. Index to the literature of peroxide of hydrogen, 1879-1883; 11. Facts gathered from eight years of personal inspection, as to the alleged destruction of the Adirondack forests, by Professor Albert R. Leeds.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.—Jan. 2.—Dr. Kneeland spoke of the cause and consequences of the recent earthquake at Ischia, giving lantern illustrations.

The secretary showed a description and drawing of the "sea serpent" lately seen at Long Branch.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—Dec. 17.—Mr. Alfred R. Conkling delivered a lecture entitled "Mexico; her Physical Geography and Resources," illustrated with thirty stereopticon views.

Jan. 8.—Rev. C. C. Tiffany, D. D., delivered a lecture entitled "Norway and the Midnight Sun," illustrated with stereopticon views.

THE SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS OF THE EASTERN UNITED STATES held its winter meeting in Columbia College, New York, Dec. 27 and 28. There was a large attendance of members and a goodly list of papers presented, as will be seen by the titles given below. The meeting was opened by an address by the president setting forth the aims and objects of the organization. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Professor Alpheus Hyatt, of the Boston Society of Natural History; vice-presidents, Professor H. N. Martin, of Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, and Professor A. S. Packard, Jr., of Brown University, Providence; secretary, Charles Sedgwick Minot, of Harvard Medical School; treasurer, Professor William B. Scott, of Princeton, and executive committee at large: Professor H. C. Lewis, of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and Lester J. Ward, of the United States National Museum.

A committee was appointed to act with the executive committee in defining what a "professional naturalist" is. A resolution was adopted that the society, recognizing the great importance of a thorough knowledge of modern languages, especially French and German, to students of natural history, regards it as a hopeful sign that a conference of professors in this department is now assembled, and expresses its sympathy with their work. A committee was also appointed to confer with the section of biology of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

#### TITLES OF PAPERS READ:

Application of photography to the preparation of natural history figures and charts.  
By S. H. Gage.

Adaptation of lectures to large classes. By W. H. Niles.

Mode of making models of gigantic Cephalopods. By J. H. Emerton.

Preparation of rock-sections. By James Hall.

On some methods of pursuing teratological researches. By Harrison Allen.

Methods of section-cutting. By E. B. Wilson.

Arrangement of a museum of vertebrates. By B. G. Wilder.

Academies of science. By E. D. Cope.

Use of pure carminic acid in staining. By G. Dimmock.

Bleaching skeletons by peroxxygen of hydrogen; skeleton holder. By S. H. Gage.

Instruction in mineralogy and petrography. By M. E. Wadsworth.

Arrangement of minerals in museums. By H. C. Lewis.

Methods of mounting museum specimens for exhibition. By A. Hyatt.

Good and bad timber. By J. T. Rothrock.

Evolution and histology. By C. S. Minot.

Preparation of organs. By B. G. Wilder.

Biology in the Northwest. By W. Trelease.

Necturus for laboratory use. By B. G. Wilder and J. H. Gage.

Immersion apparatus. By Alexis Julien.

Museum administration. By G. B. Goode.

Method of lecturing to large classes. By A. S. Bickmore.

Various methods of carmine staining. By B. Sharpe.